



**CONESTOGA-ROVERS
& ASSOCIATES**

US EPA RECORDS CENTER REGION 5



489341

200 W. Allegan Street, Suite 300
Plainwell, Michigan 49080-1397
Telephone: (269) 685-5181 Fax: (269) 685-5223
www.CRAworld.com

January 7, 2014

Reference No. 056394

Ms. Sheila Desai
Remedial Project Manager
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency – Region V
77 West Jackson Boulevard (SR-6J)
Chicago, Illinois 60604-3590

Dear Ms. Desai:

Re: Monthly Progress Report – December 2013
Former Plainwell, Inc. Mill Property Operable Unit No. 7
Allied Paper, Inc./Portage Creek/Kalamazoo River Superfund Site
Allegan and Kalamazoo County

As required by Task 8, Progress Reports in the Statement of Work of the Remedial Investigation and Feasibility Study (RI/FS) at the former Plainwell, Inc. Mill Property, please find attached three copies of the Progress Report No. 86 for the period of December 1, 2013 through December 31, 2013.

Should you have any questions or require any additional information, please do not hesitate to contact the undersigned.

Yours truly,

CONESTOGA-ROVERS & ASSOCIATES

Jennifer L. Quigley, P.E.

JQ/43/Plw.

Encl.

cc: Paul Bucholtz (MDEQ) – three hard copies
Jim Saric (U.S. EPA) – electronic only
Leslie Kirby-Miles (U.S. EPA) – electronic only
Erik Wilson (City of Plainwell) – electronic only
Richard Gay (Weyerhaeuser) – electronic only
Joe Jackowski (Weyerhaeuser) – electronic only
Martin Lebo (Weyerhaeuser) – electronic only
Garret Bondy (AMEC) – electronic only
Cynthia Draper (AMEC) – electronic only
Garry Griffith (Georgia-Pacific, LLC) – electronic only
Chase Fortenberry (Georgia-Pacific, LLC) – electronic only
Jeffrey Lifka (Tetra Tech) – electronic only
Gregory Carli (CRA) – electronic only

Equal
Employment Opportunity
Employer

**Progress Report No. 86
December 1, 2013 to December 31, 2013**

**Remedial Investigation and Feasibility Study
Former Plainwell, Inc. Mill Property
Plainwell, Michigan**

This progress report is being submitted to the United States Environmental Protection Agency (U.S. EPA) in accordance with Task 8: Progress Reports and the Schedule for Major Deliverables contained in the Statement of Work for the Remedial Investigation/Feasibility Study (RI/FS), pursuant to the terms of the Consent Decree for the Design and Implementation of Certain Response Actions at Operable Unit No. 4 and the Plainwell, Inc. Mill Property (Site) Operational Unit No. 7 of the Allied Paper, Inc./Portage Creek/Kalamazoo River Superfund Site (Consent Decree), which became effective February 22, 2005.

1. Work Performed

- Submitted response to U.S. EPA's November 1, 2013 comments on the Feasibility Study (FS) Report on December 23, 2013.
- Submitted FS Report (Revision 1) to U.S. EPA on December 23, 2013.

2. Data Received

- None.

**3. Modifications to Work Plans or Other Schedules
Proposed to, or Approved by, the U.S. EPA**

- None.

4. Problems Encountered and Planned Resolution

- None.

5. Work Anticipated During the Next Reporting Period

- None.

6. Anticipated Development with Work during the Next Period

- None.

7. Other Relevant Information

- Decommissioning and demolition activities have been initiated by the City of Plainwell under a Michigan Blight Elimination Program Grant. The work is anticipated to be completed in January 2014 and is being conducted on portions of Residential Areas 1 to 3 and Mixed Residential/Commercial Area 2. During the implementation of the decommissioning and demolition work limited paper residuals were observed within the fill material in portions of the former lagoon

2
1

areas. In the material beneath the former primary clarifier area, a larger volume of what appeared to be a paper residual-like sludge was observed, the source of which is suspected to be underground piping associated with the former primary clarifier system. This material was subsequently sampled on December 4, 2013 by representatives for the City of Plainwell for laboratory analysis for polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs). No PCBs were detected in the sample. The material was subsequently sampled for full waste characterization analysis, the results of which are currently pending.

- MW-10 and MW-5 were damaged in October/November 2013 during on-Site decommissioning and demolition activities. These areas have been demarcated and steps are being taken to properly abandon MW-10 and install a new monitoring well adjacent to MW-10, and repair or replace MW-5.